

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 37 and 44 through 49 are in the case. Claims 29 and 30 are amended by this amendment. Claims 38 through 43 are canceled by this amendment. Claims 44 through 49 are added by this amendment.

The drawings were objected to because reference characters “30” and “40” have both been used to designate torsion axle. Enclosed are two sheets of corrected drawings for FIGS. 1 and 2 correcting reference characters “30” and “40”. FIG. 1 shows a torsion axle and has been corrected to use “40” for the axle. FIG. 2 shows a sprung axle and has been corrected to use “30” for the axle.

The specification is objected to because reference characters “30” and “40” have been both used to designate torsion axle. With the corrections to FIGS. 1 and 2, the use of reference characters “30” and “40” in the specification is now correct.

Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ferris et al., U.S. 5,380,028. The Examiner cited Ferris for disclosing a bolt-together trailer frame comprising: a plurality of frame members (12, 14, 16, 18, 20) connected together by a plurality of threaded fasteners (42, 43) to form a trailer frame, the plurality of frame members including at least two axle frame members (14, 16) adapted to be connected to a torsion axle (48).

Applicant respectfully disagrees that claim 29 is anticipated by Ferris. At col. 2, line 67 to col. 3, line 1, Ferris states that trailer 10 has a frame 12 with laterally spaced side bars 14, 16 and central support bars 18, 20 forming a central trailer frame. Ferris does not describe how members 14, 16, 18 and 20 are fastened together. In col. 3, lines 20-27, Ferris states that threaded fasteners 42, 43 are used to attach mounting bracket 40 to the frame member 14. Ferris does not disclose a plurality of frame members connected together by a plurality of *threaded fasteners*. Claim 29 is not anticipated by Ferris.

The Examiner stated that claims 1 through 28 and 35 through 37 are allowed and that claims 30 through 34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and would

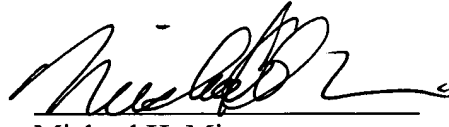
be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form.  
Claims 31 through 34 depend from claim 30.

Newly added claims 44 through 49 depend from allowed claim 1.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 through 37 and 44 through 49 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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